(ख) यदि हां, तो गत एक वर्ष के दौरान घटिया शिशु आहार बेचे जाने संबंधी कितने मामलों का पता चला है; और

(ग) दोषी पाए गए कंपनियों के विरुद्ध क्या कार्रवाई की गई है?

स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती रेणुका चौधरी) : (क) और (ख) वर्ष 1994 की वार्षिक रिपोर्ट के अनुसार देश में शिशु आहार के कुल 136 नमूने एकत्र किए गए । इनमें से एक नमूना अपमिश्रित पाया गया । तथापि अरूणाचल प्रदेश, असम, गोवा, महाराष्ट्र, त्रिपुरा और दमन और दीव से प्राप्त सूचना के अनुसार वर्ष 1995-96 के दौरान कुल 59 नमूने एकत्र किए गए और सभी नमूने विनिर्देशों के अनुरूप पाए गए ।

(ग) दोषी व्यक्तियों के विरुद्ध सम्बन्धित राज्य सरकार द्वारा खाध अपमिश्रित निवारण अधिनियम 1955 और उसके अन्तर्गत बने नियमों के अन्तर्गत कार्रवाई की जाती है ।

Gujarat Towns with High Endcmicity of Malaria

1736. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have identified some towns in Gujarat which have high cndemicity of malaria;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what specific measures have been initiated in those towns to fight the malaria manace?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The towns of Ahmedabad, Bharuch, Dohad, Godhra and Vadodora, where malaria situation is serious and the slide positivity rate is more than 10% have been identified as high risk urban areas in Gujarat.

(c) The specific measures to contain malaria in these towns are:—

1. Early case detection and prompt treatment with appropriate antimalarial drugs, through hospitals/dispensaricv' malaria clinics etc.

2. Antilarval measures through rc-cur-rent weekly lurviciding with chemicals and bio-environmental measures are undertaken.

3. Intansification of Information, Education and Communication activities for mobilising active community participation.

4. Observance of Anti-Malaria Month in June every year beginning from June, 1997 to create public awareness about prevention and containment of malaria and other vector boms diseases and to propagate the theme "Malaria Control Everyone's Concorn" to make it a people's movement in the country.

5. For additional inputs to intensify antimalaria activities, these towns have also been included under Enhanced Malaria Control Project for World Bank support, which has been negotiated Successfully.

Thalassacmia Disease in Gujarat

1737. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that recent studies have shown that children born of Gujarat couples are more prone to thalassacmia disease;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons attributed therefor;

(c) whether Government have conducted any survey to find out the number of thalassacmia patients in Gujarat;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the remedial and other measureas being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) As per information received from ICMR, studies

conducted by a few agencies have shown that certain communities, like Kutchi, Bhanushalis and Lohanas in Gujarat have higher incidence of thalassaemia.

However, thalassaemia is a genetic disorder, and if both parents are carriers, then there is 1 in 4 chance in each pregnancy of giving birth to a thalassaemia major child.

(c) and (d) Health is a Stale subject. No independent survey has been conducted by Government so far to find out the number of thalasscmic patients in Gujarat.

(c) Remedial measures for management of the disease include repeated blood transfusions, and removal of excess iron produced in the body by chelation therapy. The Govt, has provided Customs Duty exemption to the imported chelator Dcsferal injections, and have also permitted the marketing of an oral chelator, Dcferiprone, under strict medical supervision. The Indian Council of Medical Research, a Govt, aided institution supports an Advanced Research Centre at Christian Medical College, Vellore, for curetive treatment for thalasssacmia. The National Illness Assistance Fund has been set up for providing financial assistance to poor patients suffering from major diseases, including thalassaemia. The States have also been requested to set up similar Funds. Genetic Councelling and prenatal diagnosis during pregnancy to prevent birth of affected children is available at a few Centre in the country.

Performance of Tuberculosis eradication programme

1738. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what, according to the study, if any, conducted by Government, has been the level of rise in the tuberculosis cases in Delhi and in other States in the country during the last one year;
nstitutions for MTP

(b) what is the number of deaths of tuberculosis patients in 19% and since the beginning of 1997;

(c) what reasons have been identified by Government for unsatisfactory performance of the Tuberculosis Eradication Progreamme in the country; and

(d) what strategy has been formulated to eradicate the disease?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) As per reports received under the National Tuberculossis Control Programme, there has been no rise of TB cases in Delhi or in other States of the country.

(b) It is estimated that in India about 5 lakhs people die of Tuberculosis in a year.

(c) and (d) A review of the National TB Control Programme was conducted by the Govt, with assistance of WHO in 1992, the salient findings of which are as under:—

— Inadequate budget

— Shortage of drugs

— Emphasis on X—ray diagnosis

— Poor quality sputum microscopy

— ultiplicity of treatment regimens

On the basis of recommediations of the review, a Revised Strategy for implementation with an aim to achieve 85% cure rate was formulated and has been pilot tested. This is now being expanded under the Revised National TB Control Programme to cover 102 districts in the country in the First phase.

Threatended Outbreak of Japanese Encephalitis

1739. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that according to the scientists of the